



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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consequence. The lectures are perhaps more interesting than convincing, and deal with such subjects as "The morality of strife," "Clerical veracity," "Luxury," "The pursuit of culture," etc.

Sleep; its Physiology, Pathology, Hygiene, and Psychology, by Marie de Manacéine, St. Petersburg (Scott, 3/6). Mademoiselle de Manacéine gives us an important and interesting study of a subject whose importance to each of us is best understood in those days, or rather nights, when sleep with a sort of feminine wilfulness evades us. Of the four chapters dealing with the physiology, the pathology, the hygiene, and the psychology of sleep, brain-workers turn with anxious eagerness to the second. Insomnia is certainly a growing evil, and any help and suggestions which the author can give as to cause and cure are to be thankfully received. Her definition of sleep, as the rest of consciousness, is, in itself, a help. There are instructions for warm baths in the evening. Cold water in india-rubber bags, lying with the back of the neck on a hot-water bottle, enveloping the body in warm wraps, a light supper, etc., etc., are among the means suggested for inducing sleep. In each case the *rationale* of the treatment is fully explained. *The Hygiene of Sleep* is a very valuable chapter, and the pages on dreams are interesting reading though we may feel that science has little more than tentative guesses to offer on this fascinating subject, and sleep itself, like life, still refuses to disclose its secret to scientific research. We know that we sleep as we know that we live and that sleep is more necessary than food, and science has little more to tell us. At the same time we are grateful to Mademoiselle de Manacéine for putting us in touch with the latest theories on the subject.

A Croation Composer: Notes towards the study of Joseph Haydn, by W. H. Hadon (Seeley & Co.) It is curious to observe what side-issues turn upon questions of race. This little volume exactly follows its title. Its subject is not Haydn the Composer, but the Croation Composer, and the contention of the author is apparently that the music of the present has come from Croatia, and that the music of the future will be no longer Teutonic but Slavonic. Few will venture to controvert an opinion supported by such names as, Bach, Haydn, Koch, Hummel, Liszt, Joachim, Strauss, Auer; all of them born at Pressburg. The volume contains many popular Croation airs, folk-songs, which Haydn embodies in his compositions.

THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of Correspondents.]

DEAR EDITOR,—I presume that by the time this letter appears all your readers will have received a programme of the Conference proceedings, which commence on May 10th. I should like to point out that the conversazione is free to all members, and that extra cards of invitation can be supplied for any friends of members who wish to come in touch with the Union. Tickets admitting to all the proceedings, Natural History Exhibition, &c., are sold at 2/6. I would suggest that members would do well (as many did last year) to give such tickets to friends who are likely to be interested. The organizers of last year's Conference felt much encouraged by the response they received. Each meeting was well

attended and many delightful letters were received from those who were present. We have every reason to believe that this second Conference will quite equal the first in interest. In fact, it appears to me that attendance at the various meetings can give one, as nothing else can, an idea of the principles, objects and work of the Union as a whole, and inspire one with fresh energy and enthusiasm (vide *Parents' Review*, July, 1897, "Some reflections on the P.N.E.U. Conference.") Even at this late hour we shall be glad to secure hospitality for members of country branches, and I should esteem it a favour if London members, who are willing to receive guests, would communicate with me without delay. In conclusion, may I say that we hope many people will take part in the discussions, particularly on Friday morning the 12th, when criticism and objections are specially invited.

Yours faithfully,
9, Pembroke Gardens,
Bayswater, W. H. FRANKLIN, Hon. Organ. Sec.

DEAR EDITOR,—Among the numerous readers of the *Parents' Review* there may be some who would be glad to know of four scholarships, at Queen's College, Harley Street, that will be vacant next term, and hope you may allow space for their insertion. Particulars as to the scholarships and the subjects for examination can be had on application to the Lady President, Queen's College, Harley Street, W.

24, Argyll Road, Faithfully yours,
Kensington, London, W., J. B. S. THOMPSON.
March 30th, 1898.

DEAR EDITOR,—Having seen yesterday in the March *Parents' Review*, a letter from P. C., asking for the names of some really interesting books for children, telling of heroic lives and deeds, I am writing to heartily recommend five books by M. B. Synge, viz.:—*Great Englishmen*, 1/-; *Great Englishwomen* (short lives), -; *Great Deeds in English History* 1/-, published by Bell & Sons. *Brave Men and Brave Deeds*; *Great Scotsmen*, published by Nelson & Sons, about 2/6 or 3/-. Having been a teacher in private families for eighteen years, I feel justified in saying that these books are most popular with children and supply a great want in our book-shelves, the stories being told in a most correct, graphic and interesting manner; they seem to me to be the very books for P. C.

Yours faithfully,
74, Eaton Square, S.W.,
March 26th, 1898. CAROLINE A. LING.

DEAR EDITOR,—I think P. C. may find some of the following books answer her needs:—*Myths of Hellas*, *The Trojan War*, *Wanderings of Ulysses*, and *The Retreat of the Ten Thousand*, all by Professor C. Witt, and translated from the German by F. Younghusband, published by Longmans, Green & Co.; *Kingsley's Heroes*. For books on heroism the following are good:—*Heroic Reader*, VI. (Jarrold); *Heroes of Every-Day Life*, Laura Lane (Cassells); *Wm. Tyndale's Vow*, and *True to*

Himself (Swan, Sonnenschein); *Triumphs of Perseverance, Mayflower Essays*, by G. C. Blaxford, published by Downey, suitable for older children. Does P.C. know Miss Carrington's charming books on animals, teaching Natural History? They are delightful for reading aloud to children. *Nature's Wonders, Man's Helpers, &c.* *The Victoria History of England* is a great delight to our boy, for it is, as he says, "so full of anecdotes." *Stories of England and Our Kings and Queens*, published by Nelson, are nice preliminary histories with pictures. For older children Green's *Short History of the English People* is most interesting.

Yours truly,
M. A. ROBERTS.

March 7th, 1898.

MADAM,—As a mother I must take exception to Miss Gwynne's recommendations in books suitable for children, and think it right to caution other mothers of the undesirability of placing Stevenson's works in the hands of the very young. There may be nothing against conventional morality, but his characters are taken from a rough and brutal class and are not nice examples for the young. The most objectionable feature is the horrible language he (very properly from an artistic point of view) puts into the mouths of his characters. No mother could read aloud scarcely a chapter of Stevenson without omitting every other word in some conversations. I think this in itself is sufficient to show that, however admirable as literature, they are not suitable for the young. I cannot also agree with Miss Gwynne's indiscriminate praise of Mrs. Ewing's works. Many of them are for the elders rather than for the children, and labour under the same charge as *Misunderstood*, of being morbid and melancholy pictures, which it is not fair to present to children. Kingsley's *Water Babies*, charming as it is when he sticks to nature, has more or less veiled attacks on classes and creeds with which he did not sympathize, absolutely unnecessary in a child's book, and rendering it objectionable to many parents. An edition with these passages expunged would render this charming children's book generally acceptable. Is Miss Gwynne correct in attributing the discovery of steam power to the Engineer Stevenson (usually spelled Stephenson)? The story is usually told of Watt.

Yours truly,
M. LANE.

Dangteen, Petersfield.

WE feel sure that that lover of children, the author of *Alice in Wonderland*, has a niche to himself in every P.N.E.U. home, and that our readers will respond with pleasure to the invitation which follows. Will not the children themselves do something to show their gratitude to him who has given them *Alice*, perhaps their most cherished of all book-friends:—

DEAR EDITOR,—It has been suggested that considerable weight would attach to a favourable editorial note from you in your next issue concerning the enclosed. The memorial is one that appeals, for various reasons, to both old and young, besides being obviously fitting to the child-loving author of *Alice*. It also commands our sympathies as benefitting the suffering poor children of the Metropolis.

In keeping alive the recollection of the gifted author of *Alice in Wonderland*, it is recognised that his great love for children would be best commemorated by alleviating their sufferings, and the Committee confidently invite subscriptions from all those acquainted with "Lewis Carroll" or with his books, for the purpose of permanently endowing a Cot in The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, to be called The "Alice in Wonderland" Cot, for which a sum of One Thousand Pounds (£1,000) only is required.

Hoping my application, made under the instructions of my committee, will receive your approval. Believe me,

Yours very truly,
MARY F. FULLER,
Hon. Sec. L. C. Memorial.

31, Palace Court, W.,
March 14th, 1898.

Subscriptions from 1/- upwards may be sent to Mrs. Fuller.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Edited by Miss FRANCES BLOGG, Sec., 28, Victoria Street, S.W.

To whom all Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, also 30 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

NEW BRANCHES.

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Readers of the *Parents' Review* living in these districts, or having friends there, are asked to communicate with Miss Blogg.